

GPAC Newsletter

Term 1, 2019

DEAR GPAC FAMILIES,

We warmly welcome everyone back to the Grays Point Activity Centre for another amazing year.

This year we have 27 new Kindergarteners joining us as GPAC sets up for its busiest year yet. We can't wait!



ASTHMA FORMS & MEDICAL ACTION PLANS VACATION CARE & PUPIL FREE DAY

If your child has asthma, you would have been contacted by GPAC to return the updated **asthma first-aid plan and action plan**. If you have not already done so, please return these forms as soon as possible. These forms are available for download from the GPAC website www.gpactivitycentre.org/enrolments or are available from GPAC upon request.

GPAC strives to provide the safest care possible for your families and to do so we rely the co-operation of parents in returning all required forms and ensuring all necessary medications are current. If we don't have updated medical forms and current medications, we are unable to properly care for your children.

Please be aware that we have children attending the service who have severe allergies to **egg, kiwifruit, sesame, pistachio and peanut**. We kindly ask you don't bring these foods to GPAC.



2019 FEE INCREASE

As previously communicated, our fees for 2019 have increased by \$1 for permanent bookings and by \$2 for casual bookings.

Before School Care: \$18/\$22 casual

After School Care: \$23.50/\$26.50 casual

Please see our Fees Policy which also includes the fee amendments for Vacation Care.

In January, we hosted another wildly successful Vacation Care for GPAC. Thank you to all the staff involved in planning and execution. We hope everyone enjoyed it as much as we did!



The April school holiday program will be released **next week** on our website and bookings will open on **4th March**. We will be running Vacation Care in the first week of the school holidays only (15-18th April), due to the Easter and ANZAC day public holidays being in the same week.

Bookings for the school's planned **Pupil Free Day** 29.04.19 will be included in the April Vacation Care booking form.

www.gpactivitycentre.org/vacation-care



CHILD CARE SUBSIDY (CCS)

If you previously received CCS and it is now not applying, please visit your MyGov account to check whether you need to confirm that your child/ren now attend Grays Point Activity Centre. To apply for CCS, visit <https://www.humanservices.gov.au/individuals/services/entrelink/child-care-subsidy>

It is a good time to check in on your family income estimate. Make sure it is up to date and reflects your and your partner's income for the whole financial year.

If your estimate is lower than your actual income, you may get a debt, which you will have to pay back. It is also a good time to check and update your activity test if your circumstances have changed.



COMMITTEE NEWS

As you're aware, GPAC is a not-for profit, community-based service that relies on volunteers to form the management committee. This is a requirement to meet the licensing requirements of Fair Trading and the Department of Education and Communities.

The committee is looking for parents, carers and guardians to join in and support the committee.

The AGM will be held at GPAC on Wednesday, 27th of March at 7pm.

Please remember that without a management committee, there is no GPAC.

ATTENDANCES

All attendance sign-in & outs are now being sent to the Government. It is now a legal requirement, so we kindly ask that you **do not share** your Kiosk PIN code with anyone, including your children. If someone who doesn't have a Kiosk PIN is dropping off or picking up, please advise staff of the person's NAME and MOBILE number and we will be able to assist them with signing your children in and/or out.

IPAD RULES

A friendly reminder that only children in Years 5 & 6 may bring an iPad to Activity Centre; and games and applications must have a child friendly rating.

We do not provide internet and we expect iPads not to be connected to any internet whilst at Activity Centre.

Device access times are as follows: 8:15-8:45am and 4:45-6:00pm.

BOOKING CHANGES

Changes to booking patterns need to be communicated in **writing**, either via email or by completing the form available at the Kiosk sign-in desk. You can also make booking changes through your My Family Lounge account.

A friendly reminder that we require 3 weeks' notice in term 1 if you intend to cancel a booking otherwise you will be charged full fee for this period. Children must be in attendance during this cancellation period as the Government **will not** pay Child Care Subsidy for absences after a booking has been cancelled.

POLICY AMENDMENTS

We have recently amended the following policies:

Fees, Hours of Operation, Confidentiality, Enrolment and Orientation, Dealing with Infectious Diseases, Delivery and Collection of Children, Management of Animals, Water Safety, Behaviour Guidance.

Some of our policies are available on our website. Alternatively, policies are available to you at the Centre or we can arrange to have them emailed to you.

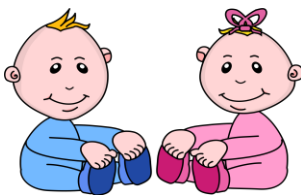


GPAC would like to introduce our newest staff member James Mackay. James is currently studying a Bachelor of Primary Education and with previous soccer refereeing experience has already built a great rapport with the children through games and sports.

We would also like to give a warm welcome back to Nicole! Nicole was travelling around Australia for the better half of 2018 and has now re-joined us in her new part-time role as Educational Leader alongside Tracy.

As one door closes, another one opens. Sadly, we also said goodbye to Tyson and Georgia. Georgia has completed her studies in child care and has gained full-time employment in the industry and Tyson has changed careers and now has a painting apprenticeship.

Lastly, GPAC is super excited to announce that our Team Leader Kiara is expecting her first baby in July! We, and the children, are thrilled to be able to travel this journey with Kiara and we can't wait to meet him or her.



GRAYS POINT ACTIVITY CENTRE

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IMPORTANT DATES

Monday 4th March – Vacation Care bookings open

Friday 15th March – Vacation Care bookings close

Wednesday 27th March – GPAC AGM 7pm

Friday 29th March – Term 1 and Vacation Care fees due

Friday 12th April – Last day of term

Monday 15th April – Vacation Care begins

Friday 20th April – Good Friday

Sunday 22nd April – Easter Sunday

Monday 23rd April – Easter Monday

Thursday 25th April – ANZAC Day

Monday 29th April – Pupil Free Day (open)

Tuesday 30th April – Term 2 GPPS begins

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITY FORM

If your children are participating in any extra-curricular activities that requires them to be signed out of Activity Centre early, such as dancing or sports please complete and return the 2019 Extra-curricular Activities form available at the Kiosk sign-in desk and on the website: www.gpactivitycentre.org/enrolments

SURVEY RESULTS

Thank you to everyone that completed our Family Survey at the end of last year. We received some great feedback that we will be using constructively in conjunction with our Quality Improvement Plan (QIP) to ensure we provide the best possible care for our families and the community.